



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Raised Bill No. 1026

LCO No. 3721



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING AN ADEQUATE PROVIDER NETWORK TO
ENSURE POSITIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR LOW INCOME
RESIDENTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
2 commission to study obstacles to achieving an adequate health care
3 provider network for Medicaid recipients and to recommend strategies
4 to improve (1) access to such providers, and (2) health outcomes for
5 such recipients across racial and ethnic lines.
- 6 (b) The commission shall study obstacles to achieving an adequate
7 provider network which include, but are not limited to: (1)
8 Administrative burdens, (2) provider education concerning provision
9 of care to Medicaid recipients, and (3) Medicaid rates of
10 reimbursement to such providers.
- 11 (c) The commission shall identify strategies to (1) improve access to
12 Medicaid providers by Medicaid recipients, (2) improve health
13 outcomes of all Medicaid recipients, (3) reduce spending rates,

14 particularly for the provision of care to Medicaid recipients with the
15 costliest health needs, and (4) reduce racial and ethnic disparities in
16 health outcomes.

17 (d) The commission shall consist of the following members:

18 (1) One advocate for recipients of Medicaid appointed by the
19 speaker of the House of Representatives;

20 (2) One advocate for persons with psychiatric disabilities appointed
21 by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

22 (3) One physician who currently does not accept Medicaid
23 recipients appointed by the majority leader of the House of
24 Representatives;

25 (4) One provider of home or hospice care for Medicaid recipients
26 appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

27 (5) One representative of the state nursing home industry appointed
28 by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

29 (6) One representative of the Connecticut Hospital Association
30 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

31 (7) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
32 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
33 relating to human services and public health; and

34 (8) One primary care physician who serves Medicaid recipients, one
35 representative of a federally qualified health center affiliated with the
36 Community Health Center Association of Connecticut and one
37 representative of community providers of behavioral care for Medicaid
38 recipients, each appointed by the Governor.

39 (e) All appointments to the commission shall be made not later than
40 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be

41 filled by the appointing authority.

42 (f) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
 43 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the
 44 commission from among the members of the commission. Such
 45 chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the commission, which
 46 shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this
 47 section.

48 (g) The administrative staff of the Office of Health Care Reform and
 49 Innovation shall serve as administrative staff of the commission.

50 (h) In order to carry out its duties under this section, the
 51 commission may raise funds, apply for and accept any public or
 52 private grant money, accept contributions, enter into contracts and,
 53 within available resources, hire any necessary consultants. The
 54 commission shall seek any funding or support available pursuant to
 55 the Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended from time to time,
 56 and may contract with a health care consultant to provide a
 57 comprehensive review of successful efforts nationwide to expand
 58 provider networks for Medicaid recipients and provide related cost
 59 estimates.

60 (i) Not later than January 1, 2014, the commission shall submit a
 61 report on its findings and recommendations, with a corresponding
 62 fiscal analysis, to the joint standing committees of the General
 63 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and
 64 public health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
 65 general statutes. The commission shall terminate on the date that it
 66 submits such report or January 1, 2014, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To improve health outcomes and ensure Medicaid recipients have timely access to an adequate network of health care providers in time for the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]